



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, suicide is a national public health challenge that causes immeasurable pain among individuals, families, and communities across the country; and*

*WHEREAS, the number of Veteran and Military suicides has exceeded 6,000 each year from 2008-2017; and*

*WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, 2nd for people ages 10-35, and on average 129 Americans die by suicide each day accounting for 47,173 suicide deaths in 2017; and*

*WHEREAS, on March 5, 2019, President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 13861 calling for the development of a comprehensive plan to empower Veterans and end suicide through coordinated suicide prevention efforts, prioritized research activities, and strengthened collaboration across the public and private sectors; and*

*WHEREAS, for every individual who feels alone, ashamed, or believes that they would be a burden if their thoughts or feelings were shared, there are scores of others in every community who want to help but are not sure how; and*

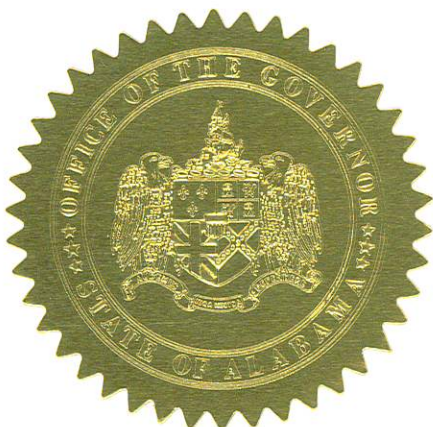
*WHEREAS, Alabama businesses are in the unique position to leverage the learnings from our employees, including Veterans, to encourage a national discussion on mental health and wellbeing in the workplace, and collaborate on meaningful solutions; and*

*WHEREAS, the PREVENTS national public health campaign REACH, will seek to increase awareness of mental health issues and suicide prevention to reduce suicide for all Americans;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 10, 2020 as*

# *Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the  
Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City  
of Montgomery on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor